

RCA89648

Ser. No. 10/031,020  
 Amdt. dated June 6, 2005  
 Reply to Office action of February 7, 2005

### Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to better clarify the operation of the present invention. Support for the amendment, "in response to acquiring the carrier frequency" is found in figure 4 and corresponding portions of the specification on page 7 line 37 through page 8, line 5.

### 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Krishnamurthy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,546,138)

The present claimed invention recites a method of for performing carrier acquisition of a television signal having a pilot tone centered about a carrier frequency. The method includes amplifying the television signal using a first amplification level in response to a control signal; and acquiring the carrier frequency from the amplified television signal. The television signal is then amplified to a second level, lower than the first level, in response to acquisition of the carrier frequency. The present invention amplifies the television signal "in response to acquiring the carrier frequency, using a second amplification level" as recited in the presently amended claim 1.

It is submitted that Krishnamurthy et al., does not teach or suggest amplifying the television signal "in response to acquiring the carrier frequency, using a second amplification level" as recited in the presently amended claim 1. Krishnamurthy et al. teaches a method of performing carrier acquisition of a television signal with a pilot tone centered about a carrier frequency. The method teaches of maximum gain at an initial fixed period defined by the AFC Defeat Signal. Specifically, the "46.69MHz output...is applied through IF switch 32 to the inputs of multipliers 40 and 42 during an initial interval" (column 4, lines 19-21). This initial interval "is defined by the duration of the AFC defeat signal" (column 4, lines 21 and 22). Additionally, "the initial interval comprises a fixed period of maximum gain" (column 4, lines 24-26). Moreover, "During the initial interval corresponding to the AFC Defeat signal duration, the IF amplifier gain is held at a maximum level, irrespective of the actual level of the IF signal" (column 4, lines 27-31).

The present claimed invention is concerned with improving the robustness of carrier signal acquisition. The present claimed invention solves this problem by increasing the signal gain to a level below maximum value and maintaining the gain at an increased level only

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until the carrier signal is acquired. This solution uses control signals to create a more energy and time efficient system. By amplifying the television signal until the carrier frequency is acquired the amplification is performed only for a necessary period as opposed to Krishnamurthy et al., in which the amplification is performed for a set period.

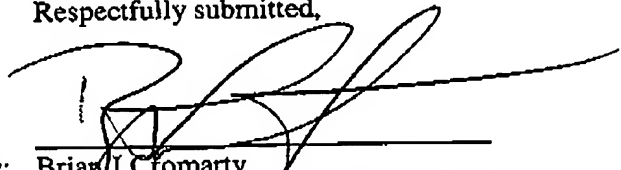
In light of the above argument and amendment, it is submitted that claim 1 is allowable over Krishnamurthy et al., and such action is respectfully requested.

Since claims 2-9 are dependant from allowable claim 1, it is submitted that they to are allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable, and such action is respectfully requested.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's representative at (609) 734-6804, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

  
By: Brian J. Cromarty  
See attached letter of limited recognition  
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